IPPS 3 – 5 March 2015

A year in New Zealand My observations and opinions

Karen Eichholz



Definition - Green fingers

The condition that arises from handling large sums of money at your local Garden Centre.





Challenges:

- Climate
- Population
- Labour
 Cost
- Distances
- Legal



<u>Climate</u>



Population & Labour cost

New Zealand:

4.5 million people

Minimum Wage NZ\$ 14.25/h (R125.68/h = labour cost is 9.4 x higher in NZ)

Unemployment: 5.6%

South Africa:

54 million people (x 12)

Minimum wage R13.37/h (NZ\$ 1.52/h)

Unemployment 24.3%

Distances

New Zealand:

268 021 km²

N to S about 1900km

Kaitaia to Wellington 962km Picton to Invercargill 897km South Africa:

1.22 mil km² (4.5 times larger) N to S about 1900km

Musina to CT 1916km Dbn to CT 1592 – 1705km



- Pollution
- Recycling
- Waste removal
- Water quality
- Alien species





Productivity

Pride in the profession Mechanisation Irrigation Crop planning / scheduling Daily targets / output













<u>Media</u>

- Daltons custom blends
- Sand
- Pumice
- Peat
- Coco coir
- Bark compost (<u>P. radiata</u>)
- Fertilizer & Wetting agents
- NZ\$ 87 to \$110/m³(2010)







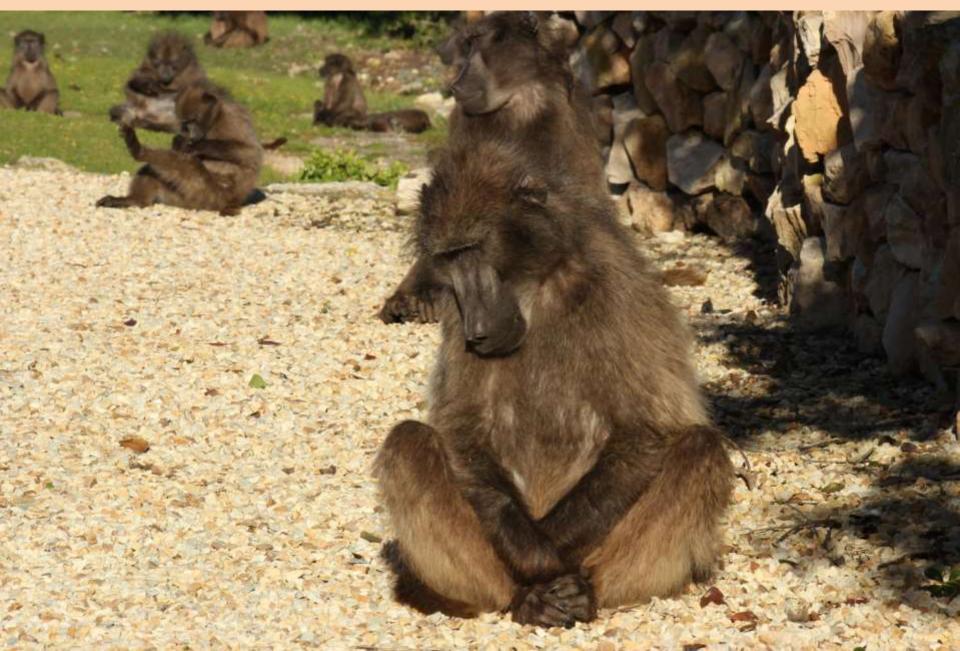








That boring, eh...?

















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LIVING WALLS

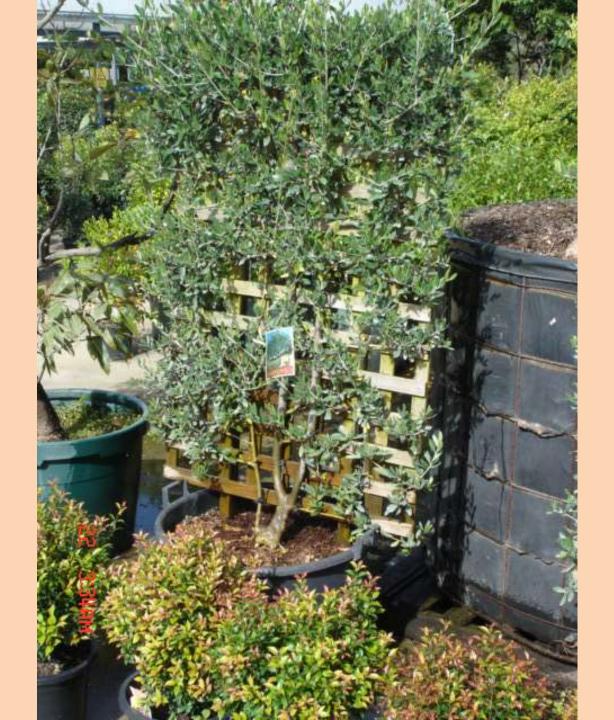
Hedges in a hurry.













Conclusion

- Depending on who you are and who you compare yourself with, you are either good or have a long way to go.
- Travel as often & as far and wide as you can.
- Network IPPS.
- Despite challenges we face in SA, it is an exciting industry to be in.

Thank you!









